SARL NEWS - SUNDAY 05 APRIL 2009

You are listening to ZS6SRL, the official Radio Station of the South African Radio League, the National Body for Amateur Radio in South Africa, with a news bulletin every Sunday at 08:15 CAT in Afrikaans and at 08:30 CAT in English. To listen to a webstream, visit www.sarl.org.za, click on ARMI and follow the links for details. PLEASE NOTE: for audio via Echolink, connect to ZS0JPL-R.

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Your news reader this morning is (name), (call sign), on 145,725 and 7,066 MHz from Pretoria, with relays on 28,325, 14,235, 10,130, 7,066 and 3,695 MHz SSB, as well as 52,750, 438,825 and 1 296 MHz FM in the Pretoria area. (Other newsreaders please change to suit).

(PAUSE)

In the news today:

WHERE HAVE THE SUNSPOTS GONE?

PRESIDENT S NET TODAY AT 19:30

STILL NO 7 MHz BAND EXPANSION

You are listening to ZS6SRL. Stay tuned for more detail on these and other important and interesting news items.

The sunspot cycle is behaving a little like the stock market. Just when you think it has hit
Sunspot counts for 2009 have dropped even lower. As of March 31, there were no sunspots on 7
Listen to Amateur Radio Mirror International later this morning or visit www.sarl.org.za for

The SARL Presiden st Net will be on the air this evening (Sunday 5 April) starting at 19:30.
One of the main issues to be discussed during the President's net is the proposed increase a
Rassie Erasmus will discuss Council's position during the net and invite participation in th
The copy of the Goverment Gazette with the ICASA fee increase proposal is available for down

During the past week the major role-players at ICASA attended the CRASA meeting in Zambia. C

AMSAT-DL achieved some early successes in its mission to send a spacecraft to Mars. From gro

There will be lots of action at the SARL's National Amateur Radio Centre at Radiokop in Gaut
Radio Amateurs and Shortwave listeners are invited to listen for the beacon signals and ente
What is your club doing to celebrate world amateur radio day on 18 April? SARL NEWS is eager

The Hermanus Magnetic Observatory inaugurated a new state of the art ionosonde last Thursday
The event was attended by SARL President, Rassie Erasmus, ZS1YT, who also used the opportuni

CONTEST NEWS

The Autumn QRP Sprint will take place on Sunday 19 April from 14:00 to 16:00 CAT. It is a CW

Contestants in the SARL VHF/UHF analogue contest, which took place over the weekend of 21/22

CLUB NEWS

The Transvaal Voortrekkers is having the Thaba Field Activity Camp from 3 to 9 April near Br

At the March monthly meeting of Hamnet Western Cape it was decided to move the weekly radio

PROPAGATION REPORT

Hannes Coetzee, ZS6BZP, reports that the expected solar activity will be very low. The geoma
The imminent change of season with less energy from the sun reaching the Southern ionosphere
Contacts with the USA are going to be challenging.

10 MHz is looking promising late afternoon and after dark for the CW and digital enthusiasts. Local conditions are going to be good on 40 m during the day time. 80 m may perform well during the early mornings and late afternoons over the shorter distances, e.g. between ZS5 and ZS6. 30 m may perform well during the middle of the day between ZS6 and ZS1. With winter on its way 20 m is preparing for hibernation but may still give surprising results before lunchtime. 80 m is the frequency of choice in the evenings. Unfortunately the static noise levels are still a bit high making contacts on the longer distances a bit challenging. Remember that this is only a prediction and that HF has the capability to pleasantly surprise you, but you will never know unless you switch your rig on, listen and also call CQ. Please visit www.spaceweather.co.za for further information.

DIARY OF EVENTS

5 April President s net, that is tonight at 19:30; 3 9 April Transvaal Voortrekkers on the air from a camp near Brits; 9 12 April ZS3ARC active from Verneukpan; 11 April VHF/UHF Analogue competition logs to be in; 18 April Bacar demonstration at the NARC and ZS6SRL active for World Amateur Radio Day; 19 April - Autumn QRP Sprint; 23 APRIL Last day to enter for the May RAE; 24-26 April SARL National Convention, Cape Town.

SARL News invites clubs and individuals to submit news items of interest to radio amateurs and shortwave listeners. Submit news items if possible in both English and Afrikaans to www.sarl.org.za/newsinbox.asp, not later than the Thursday preceding the bulletin date.

The SARL also invites you to listen to the Amateur Radio Mirror International programme every Sunday morning at 10:00 CAT on 145,750 MHz in the Pretoria area, with relays on 7 082, 7 205 and 17 860 kHz. There is also a podcast by ZS6RO. For the webstream and Echolink by ZS6FCS, visit www.sarl.org.za, click on 'ARMI' and follow the links. A repeat transmission can be heard Mondays at 21:00 CAT on 3 215 kHz. Sentech sponsors the ARMI transmissions on the non-amateur frequencies.

You have listened to a bulletin of the South African Radio League, compiled by George, ZS6NE. Thank you for listening, 73.

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